

## R E M A R K S

Claims 22 through 29 and 31 through 32 are in the application, with claim 22 having been amended, claim 30 having been cancelled, and claim 32 having been added. Claim 22 is the independent claim herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

### Claim Rejections

Claims 22-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and claims 22-31 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 20020176430 ("Sangha"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

### Claim 22

Amended claim 22 describes an apparatus comprising a communication path, a processor, a buffer pool register cache local to the processor, and a non-local memory. The communication path is to exchange information packets and the processor is to process information packets. The buffer pool register cache local to the processor is to store a first list of free buffer handles for information packets if the buffer pool register cache is not full and is to store the first list of buffer handles associated with both receive and transmit operations. The non-local memory is to store a second list of free buffer handles for information packets if the buffer pool register cache local to the processor is full. The non-local memory is not accessed if the buffer pool register cache local to the processor is not full. Moreover, the first list of free buffer handles points to different register locations than the second list of free buffer handles.

The art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest the above-mentioned features of amended independent claim 22. In particular, the art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest a first list of free buffer handles that point to different register locations than a second list of free buffer handles.

Sangha, at [0093], describes a control program that determines if a write free queue (“WFQ”) has reached a maximum threshold after a data pointer is returned to the WFQ. If the WFQ has reached a maximum threshold, then at step 875 of Sangha, one or more data pointers from the WFQ are transferred to an external memory. Sangha transfers data pointers to external memory when a queue has reached a maximum threshold and is not seen to disclose or to suggest the data pointers in the WFQ pointing to different register locations when they are transferred to the external memory.

Accordingly, nowhere can Sangha be seen to disclose or to suggest a first list of free buffer handles that point to different register locations than a second list of free buffer handles.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent claim 22 and its related dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

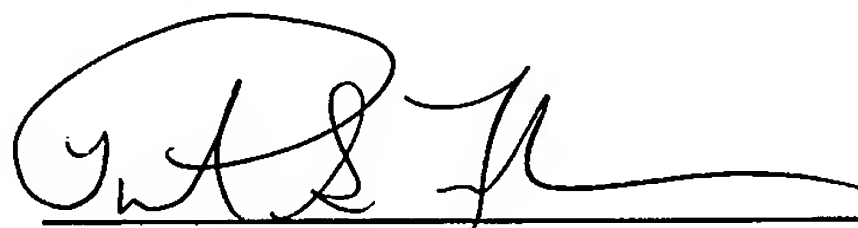
## CONCLUSION

The outstanding Office Action presents a number of characterizations regarding the applied references, some of which are not directly addressed by this response. Applicants do not necessarily agree with the characterizations and reserve the right to further discuss those characterizations.

For at least the reasons given above, it is submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-4982.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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